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▲ Boxer **LENNOX LEWIS** (r) lands a right hook on opponent **DAVID TUA** to defend his heavy-weight championship titles during the sixth round of their recent 12-round fight at Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino in Las Vegas **ON PAGE 58**.

Cover photo courtesy UPN.

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NATIONAL REPORT

Blacks Await Outcome Of Presidential Election After Returning Their Candidates To Congress



Albert Gore



George W. Bush

The attention of some 100 million American voters is focused on Florida, the state whose Palm Beach County vote recounts and subsequent 25 electoral votes will likely determine



the next president of the U.S.

Florida is also the state where many Blacks are among the angered citizens who feel disenfranchised by the alleged voting irregularities at the polls there on Election Day.

In Miami-Dade and Broward Counties, which have high concentrations of Black voters and are among the Democratic counties the campaign of Vice President Al Gore has sought vote recounts by hand, election officials said dozens of Blacks were unfairly turned away from the polls (see page 9).

Congresswoman Carrie Meek, whose 17th District is in Dade County, reported her office received numerous accounts from Blacks who were turned away at polling places.



▲ The Rev. Jesse Jackson holds the ballot Palm Beach voters used. Some complained they voted for Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan instead of Gore because of confusion from the way the county's punch-card style ballot was laid out.



Voters reported being intimidated by poll workers and being told their identification was invalid.

"They are frustrated Black people who worked so hard for the right to vote; they died for the right to vote. And we have seen a presidential election here where people had that right denied, through intimidation.

"Some Haitians are saying this is worse than an election in Haiti. What kind of superpower has an election like this?" she told the New York Times.

Though Vice President Gore won

◀ Rep. Carrie Meek (D-FL), along with aides, addresses the media on the steps of the Miami Dade County Courthouse in downtown Miami.



▲ Leisley Ward (r) of West Palm Beach, FL, demonstrates against voting irregularities during a rally in front of a Palm Beach County elections office in West Palm Beach.

the popular vote by a reported 98,000 margin, the White House goes to the candidate who gets at least 270 electoral votes (see page 12). At JET press time, Vice President Gore had won 18 states and the District of Columbia for 255 electoral votes, while Texas Gov. George Bush won 29 states for 246 electoral votes. The electoral votes of Oregon (7) and New Mexico (5) had not been awarded at JET press time. However, the outcome of the Florida tally was of paramount importance to the presidential candidates because neither could win without the state's 25 electoral votes.

An automatic machine recount statewide was triggered by state law because Bush led Gore by less than one-half of 1 percent in the Florida

popular vote. The recount was being conducted by all 67 county election departments. With 66 of the 67 counties tabulated, Bush led Gore by 229 votes, according to an AP report. The totals were out of nearly 6 million cast.

In addition, Palm Beach county had ordered another recount by hand of its entire 450,000 votes originally cast on Election Day after a hand count of selected precincts turned up enough errors to prompt election officials to make the call.

Broward, Volusia and Miami-Dade were also conducting hand counts. The hand counts were being contested in court by the Bush campaign at JET press time.

In addition, the deadline for absentee ballots from Americans living

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abroad (Nov. 17) had not arrived and some remained to be counted.

With the presidency at stake by such a narrow margin, many of the voters who claim they were bamboozled at their polling places were venting their frustrations on radio talk shows, at church meetings and on city streets at protest rallies.

The protesters were a mixed bag of Blacks, Hispanics, young and elderly, many walking with canes, or sitting in wheelchairs.

In Miami, the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. galvanized the scores of irate voters whose allegations of voting impro-

◀ *Citing complaints of voting difficulties his organization received, NAACP chairman Kweisi Mfume requested the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate.*

▼ *At a gathering in West Palm Beach, voters line up to sign a petition requesting a re-vote in the state's presidential election.*



► *Votes in the heavily Democratic Florida counties of Volusia, Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade (shown in pink) were being recounted based on charges of voting irregularities. The state whose population is 15.2 million has 67 counties. Six million Floridians voted in the recent election*

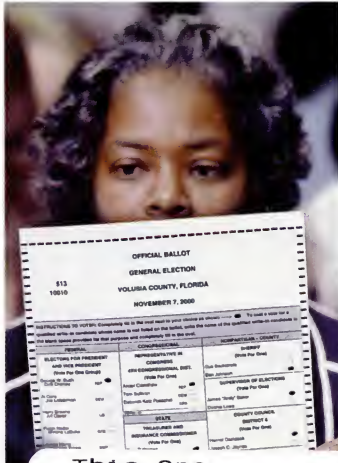
prieties ranged from missing ballots to voter intimidation to confusing “butterfly” ballots that caused them to mistakenly vote for Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan rather than Gore (Buchanan later admitted the layout of the ballot may have inflat-

Broward

Miami-Dade

Volusia

Palm Beach



This One



DG11-FYS-DY44

ed his tally at Gore's expense).

Rev. Jackson told protesters: “We want to stress that this is not just about Black voters. We have to press forward because the integrity of democracy is at stake.”

◀ *A Volusia County employee holds up a ballot for another member of her team to read during a manual ballot recount at the Volusia County Thomas C. Kelly Administrative Center in DeLand, FL.*



◀ *Sleeping Florida A & M University students lie around the state seal at the Capitol in Tallahassee, FL. Several hundred students staged a sit-in protest in an effort to speak with state officials about their concerns in the Florida vote recount.*

And as lawyers and election judges reviewed disputed ballots inside Palm Beach County's government center, hundreds of demonstrators outside cheered as Rev. Jackson explained during a massive rally "If you're driving down the road and your wheels are not aligned properly, you have a wreck. "There was a wreck in West Palm."

Rev. Jackson and NAACP President and CEO Kweisi Mfume said they received complaints that Blacks had difficulty voting. Jackson said some voters were told there were no more ballots, or that polls were closed.

At Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, students came forth with reports of being turned away from the polls despite showing their

◀ *NAACP Chairman Julian Bond said, "The public needs to be assured that the final determination is fair to everyone, no matter who it is you wanted to be president."*



yvette's
recital
Monday

today's
breakfast
meeting

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game tonight

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fundraiser
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How the Electoral College Works

Many citizens believe that when they cast their ballots for president, whomever gets the most votes wins. Yet there is an intermediate step in the electoral process—the Electoral College. When we vote for president, we actually are voting for a group of electors who in turn cast their votes for our choice. While the electoral vote usually mirrors the popular vote, winning the nation's popular vote does not automatically guarantee the presidency, as we are witnessing with this year's election.

*** Who can be a member of the Electoral College?** Basically anyone can be an elector since the Constitution contains few provisions on electors' qualifications. Some exceptions are Congress members and federal government employees, who cannot serve as electors in order to maintain the balance between the government legislative and executive branches.

*** Who selects the electors?** The major political parties in each state usually select the slate of electors to represent their party's presidential candidates. Electors are chosen based on their loyalty to the party and candidate.

*** What determines the number of electors?** The number of electors each state receives is equal to the number of U.S. senators and representatives the state has. States with larger populations have more electors, but smaller states still have clout since no state receives less than three electors.

*** How is the winner determined?** Voters in each state cast their ballots on Election Day for the party slate of electors representing their choice for president and vice president. The party slate that wins the most popular votes in the state becomes that state's electors—in effect, the presidential ticket that gets the most popular votes wins all the electors of that state. (The two exceptions to this are Maine and Nebraska). Each state's electors then meet (Dec. 18 this year) in their respective state capitols and cast their electoral votes—one for president and one for vice president. As stated by the 12th Amendment to the Constitution, whoever receives a majority (50 percent plus one) of the electoral vote is the winner. Since the current number of electors is 538, it takes 270 electoral votes to win the presidency.

*** Are electors obligated to vote for a specific candidate?** In most cases, the electors do vote for the candidate they have pledged to support. But according to the Constitution, they are not legally bound to any given candidate and therefore can vote for whomever they please.

*** What happens if a tie occurs?** If no presidential candidate receives a majority of the electoral votes, the House of Representatives determines the winner. Each state gets one vote and whoever gets at least 26 states would win the presidency.

Source: Federal Election Commission, MSNBC.com, U.S. Embassy, National Archives and Records Administration

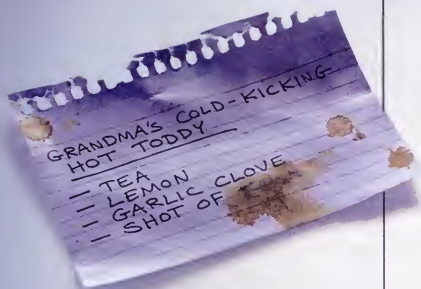
photo identification and voter registration cards.

At Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, hundreds of students occupied three floors of the state Capitol during a sit-in demonstration protesting the presidential ballot cri-

sis.

Mfume asked the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate the numerous complaints of election irregularities and minority vote dilution in Florida.

"The NAACP is concerned about



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▲ Among the Blacks returning to Congress are legislators (l-r) Charles Rangel (D-NY), John Conyers (D-MI) and Julian Dixon (D-CA). Rangel, who was re-elected to a 16th term, is the ranking Democratic member of the Ways and Means Committee. Conyers, who was re-elected to a 19th term, is the ranking Democratic member of the Judiciary Committee. Dixon, who was re-elected to a 12th term, is the ranking Democratic member of the Select Committee on Intelligence.

reported instances of disproportionate disqualifications of Black voters and the failure to pick up at least one ballot box from a heavily Black precinct. We have grave concerns that these and other acts may violate the 15th Amend-

ment to the Constitution and the Voting Rights Act of 1965," he said.

Attorney General Janet Reno said at press time that the Justice Department would review allegations of racial voting irregularities in Florida.

The reports include complaints of state troopers stop-

ping Black motorists on their way to the polls, abandoned ballot boxes and local police asking Black male voters for identification. The allegations were made by voters to the NAACP and other civil rights organizations.

▼ Rep. Sanford Bishop, (D-GA), right, is greeted by a supporter on Election Day in Albany, GA, after he won his re-election bid in Georgia's 2nd District. Bishop defeated Republican candidate Dylan Glenn. Rep. William Lacy Clay, (D-MO), is congratulated by supporters after recently defeating Republican Z. Dwight Billingsly in the first District of St. Louis. Clay's father, Rep. Bill Clay, is retiring after holding the seat since 1969.



"We would have to look at each instance to see whether there was any basis for concluding that there was a federal violation, and do it fairly, do it carefully, and do it without dispatch," Reno said.

NAACP Chairman Julian Bond commented that he was gratified that the Justice Department would investigate.

"We're glad to hear it," Bond said. "We cannot have a president elected in a tainted election. The public needs to be assured that the final determination is fair to everyone, no matter who it is you wanted to be president."

National Urban League President Hugh B. Price observed, "It's absurd in the year 2000 to have those kinds of foul ups and disenfranchisement that happened in Florida and other states. We have to visit the question of what kind of ballot we should have in the presidential election. The idea that we could have this kind of

► Corrine Brown, (r) Florida Congresswoman, and her friend, singer Tori Robinson, cheer as Hillary Rodham Clinton is declared the winner of the New York Senate race on Election Day, as they watch the returns in Jacksonville, FL. Brown defeated Republican challenger Jennifer Carroll to retain her position.



▲ Maryland Congressman Elijah Cummings addresses supporters at a victory party. Cummings defeated his Republican rival Kenneth Kondner garnering a massive 87% of the vote.

confusion over the layout of a ballot, makes no sense in the year 2000."

Reflecting on the close margin in the votes in Florida, Price added, "People saw how close it could be. I think people know now once and for all, that our vote does count."

Despite the current stalemate in the presidential election, Black voters came out in record numbers and re-elected Blacks in key congression-





▲ *National Urban League President Hugh B. Price said the get-out-the-vote grassroots effort certainly made a difference. "The turnout was very, very strong...Everybody who could was helping in some way."*

al races across the country on Election Day.

A total of 39 Blacks were re-seated in Congress thanks to Black voter power.

Rep. Meek noted that the Black voter turnout in the urban areas in Florida was higher than the previous high of 64 percent in the 1996 election. Miami-Dade County, which she represents, had a 90 percent Black voter turnout, the highest in the state.

She, along with fellow members of the Congressional Black Caucus, worked tirelessly to push the Black turnout this election. Rep. Meek ran with the slogan, "Arrive with 5. Go to the poll and take five people with you."

And that is apparently what many Black voters across the nation did.

The Voter News Service poll revealed Black voters overwhelmingly supported Gore. The vice president received 90 percent of the Black vote, according to early returns. And in some states, Gore's Black support exceeded the huge support President Bill Clinton received in 1996.

Cedric Mobley, communications director for Texas Congresswoman Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, who returned to her house seat with a 92 percent vote, told JET "Black people in America really voted this election. Black people in America have proven in this election that every single, solitary vote counts."

Also key to the tremendous Black voter turnout was the effort made by the Congressional Black Caucus' Political Action Committee which sponsored live radio remotes from Florida A&M University in Tallahassee and North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro during both universities' recent Homecoming festivities.

"These were places where large

▼ *Black celebrities Tom Joyner and Tavis Smiley were instrumental in the high Black voter turnout with programs promoting voter registration and voter education.*





◀ *Illinois' three Black congressmen, Danny K. Davis, Jesse Jackson Jr., and Bobby Rush, were returned to office by a high Black voter turnout in the state. Davis said the high turnout destroyed the myth that low income Blacks don't vote.*

numbers of African-Americans from all across the country would be, so the Congressional Black Caucus bought time on radio stations about the importance of getting out the vote," explained Rep. Meek's press secretary Tola Thompson, who also produced the radio remote in Florida. "The Congressional Black Caucus invested substantial funds to get-out-the-vote and reminded people of what was at stake."

The NAACP spent \$9 million in an unprecedented voter mobilization campaign in several states, including Maryland, Florida, Michigan, Illinois, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama and Pennsylvania. The voter effort included door-to-door campaigning and media advertisements.

Tom Joyner, host of the nationally syndicated "The Tom Joyner Morning Show," urged Black listeners to his

radio show to get out the vote through several special broadcasts that focused on voter registration, voter education and voter mobilization.

TV talk show host and commentator on the "Joyner Show" Tavis Smiley also pushed the importance of Black voter participation with the symposium "Black Agenda 2000" which aired on the Joyner show. "The two most important days in your life is Judgment Day and Election Day, and you do not want to miss either," Smiley told the radio listeners. The radio broadcast was a scaled-down version of Smiley's historic "Advocacy in the New Millennium: New Paradigms for Progress" symposium held during the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles and featured dozens of intellectuals, politicians and celebrities.

The get-out-the-vote grassroots



◀ *Other Blacks who were re-elected to congressional seats are Alcee Hastings (D-FL) for a fifth term, Maxine Waters (D-CA) for a sixth term and Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) for a fifth term. Waters is the senior female member of the Congressional Black Caucus.*



▲ *Senator-elect and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton greets supporters and well wishers following a brief appearance to thank them for their votes at Syracuse Airport in Syracuse, NY. Rodham Clinton made political history as the first first lady ever elected to Senate.*

effort certainly made a difference in Black voter involvement, observed National Urban League President Hugh B. Price.

"The turnout was very, very strong," Price told JET. "For example, it was up 20 percent in New York. We also saw very strong participation in states like Missouri, Illinois, Georgia...the get-out-the-vote campaign by the NAACP made a difference. Many of the National Urban League affiliates were active in the get-out-the-vote campaigns in places like St. Louis, Seattle and Houston. And probably one of the most interesting was the Black funeral directors who partnered with the Urban League and other organizations and drove folks to the polls. It was a very strong

effort. Everybody who could was helping in some way," he noted.

Rep. Danny K. Davis (IL), who was returned to his seat in Congress from the 7th Congressional District, along with fellow Black Chicago congressmen Bobby Rush and Jesse Jackson Jr., revealed: "I was pleased, just bubbling over to see so many people at my polling place. Much of my area is what is called low income. Oftentimes they are stereotyped because people believe that certain things they won't do like vote. They destroyed that myth and that stereotype.

"People see that we can go one of two ways, we're on the verge of going forward into the new millennium or we can go back the way we did 100

[Continued on page 61](#)

N.J. Dentist Being Investigated As Suspect In Death Of 1st Wife Who Died In Car Accident



▲ Dr. Eric Thomas talks about the ordeal of losing his first wife, Tracy Thomas, when an air bag exploded during an accident in 1997 as his new wife, Stephanie Arrington, who is eight months pregnant, listens in their home. Dr. Thomas sued the Ford Motor Company alleging an air bag killed Tracy, but the company, in its defense, is alleging that the New Jersey dentist strangled her.

A judge recently appointed a lawyer for the young daughter of a New Jersey dentist who Ford Motor Company believes killed his first wife.

U.S. Magistrate Joel B. Rosen appointed Warren Faulk to protect the interests of Alix Thomas, 5, the daughter of Cape May County dentist Dr. Eric Thomas and the late Tracy Thomas. Besides her father, Alix is the only beneficiary of her mother's estate.

Dr. Thomas, 35, filed a wrongful

death suit in 1999 claiming a faulty air bag in their Ford Explorer was responsible for the 1997 death of his 37-year-old wife Tracy.

He passed a lie detector test administered by the prosecutor's office at his lawyer's request.

Ford lawyers, however, said they weren't responsible because Tracy was killed by strangulation. They also said Dr. Thomas should be the suspect because it was alleged that Dr. Thomas was having an affair at



▲ Tracy Thomas flashes a bright smile as she poses with daughter Alix Thomas in a 1997 photograph that was taken a short while before Tracy's death. A judge appointed a lawyer for Alix, now 5, to protect her interests because she's the only beneficiary of her mother's estate.

the time of his wife's death. Company lawyers say telephone records show Dr. Thomas received more than 140 calls from his high-school sweetheart, Stephanie Arrington, 34, in Austin, TX, in the three months before Tracy died. Lawyers said at least seven of the calls came the day of the accident.

After Dr. Thomas married Arrington a year and a half after Tracy's death, prosecutors were urged to reopen the investigation by Tracy's family when the phone records came

to surface.

According to court records, Dr. Thomas' actions after his wife's death caused her parents to become suspicious. Allegedly he had asked them not to talk about Tracy and to take down photographs of her when Alix went to visit them at their home in Cape Cod, MA.

The dentist, who said he has little memory of the accident, said he sued the automaker to show the dangers of air bags.

"My daughter, Alix, has lost her mother. I lost my wife," Dr. Thomas said last year on the day he filed his multimillion-dollar lawsuit. "Nothing will ever bring her back. We hope that this lawsuit will educate the public of the needless dangers air bags pose."

According to Dr. Thomas' lawsuit, the couple were wearing seat belts, and Alix, then 18 months old, was strapped in the back seat. Tracy, who was six months pregnant, hit a pole when she veered off the snow-covered road to avoid a deer as they were on their way to take their sick daughter to a local hospital.

When a passing motorist stopped nearly an hour later, just before 2 a.m., Tracy, who had bruises on her face, had no pulse. Both mother and unborn child were pronounced dead at the scene. Dr. Thomas was unconscious on the passenger's side of their 1996 SUV. Their daughter was uninjured strapped into a child safety seat in the back seat.

Two months later, Dr. Elliot Gross, Cape May County's medical



▲ A picture shows the damage that the Thomas' 1996 Ford Explorer sustained when it hit a pole during a 1997 accident.

examiner, said Tracy's death was caused by blunt force trauma consistent with a motor vehicle accident.

But forensic pathologist Dr. Michael M. Baden, one of several experts retained by Ford, said hemorrhages in her eyes and neck were inconsistent with air bag injuries, but consistent with the manual compression of the neck.

Dr. James V. Benedict said an exploding air bag would generate force to the victim's body for "less than the blink of an eye" while the pressure needed to cause the injuries found on Tracy's body lasted at least 30 seconds.

Dr. Thomas also is suing Ford for defamation for implying that he killed his wife; he insists he had nothing to do with her death.

Ford's lawyers asked Rosen to let them re-interview Dr. Thomas. Rosen

recently ruled that lawyers can interview both Dr. Thomas and Arrington early next year, but it could not take place sooner because Arrington is more than eight months pregnant.

Alix lives with her father and his new wife.

Faulk will deliver what could be a key recommendation by Jan. 5, 2001; he could recommend that Alix remain a plaintiff in the wrongful death lawsuit her father filed against Ford. He could also recommend she side with Ford and file a wrongful death complaint against her father instead.

Faulk could also suggest removing the girl as a beneficiary of her mother's estate or hedging her bets by continuing in the suit against Ford and also suing her father.

PHOTOS BY THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/SHARON GEKOSKI-KIMMEL

Widow Of Bigamist N.Y. Doctor Is Shot In Murder-For-Hire Plot; Brother-In-Law Charged

The widow of a New York bigamist recently was shot by two hit men in what authorities called a botched murder-for-hire scheme allegedly orchestrated by the dead man's brother.

Eliette Dominique, 56, was released from South Nassau Community Hospital with pieces of .22-caliber shrapnel lodged in her head and right hand after gunmen opened fire on her outside her Long Island home, police said.

Marvin Gedin, 20, of Maplewood, NJ, and Alexander Exama, 19, of Newark were both arrested. Eliette's brother-in-law, Aly Dominique, a high school chemistry teacher, was held on \$500,000 bail on an attempted murder charge. His lawyer, Gregory Watts, denied his involvement. Dominique was not present at the time of the shooting.

Police charged Dominique, 44, promised two men about \$10,000 if they would kill his sister-in-law. According to authorities, he viewed wife No. 2 as the legitimate heir to the estate of his late brother, Dr. Jean-Claude Dominique. In August, a Nassau County judge ruled Eliette was the legitimate spouse.

The bizarre story began in 1980, when Eliette married Haitian-born



▲ Aly Dominique (l), 44, allegedly hired two men, Alexander Exama (r), 19, and Marvin Gedin, 20, to kill his sister-in-law, Eliette Dominique.

Jean-Claude Dominique. She had sponsored his immigration from Haiti in the late 1970s, and after his arrival, she paid his way through medical school.

But two years after he wed Eliette, the doctor secretly married his childhood sweetheart, Marie Betsy Barlabier, who had followed him to America from Haiti. Using a female impersonator to pose as Eliette to forge her signature, Jean-Claude Dominique—unbeknownst to his first wife—secured an uncontested divorce and married Marie.

Eliette and her husband continued to have a "very normal marriage relationship," her attorney, Charles Sloane, said. "She had no inkling that there was anything more."

The doctor maintained his double life for nearly 20 years, splitting his

time between a waterfront Long Island home with his first wife and their two children, and a home in a New Jersey suburb with his second wife and their two children.

But on April 30, 1999, his secret was exposed. Just before midnight, a driver in a stolen car slammed into the 50-year-old doctor near the Brooklyn, NY, condo he and wife Eliette owned, leaving him in a coma. The two wives met in a hospital emergency room. While Dominique

lingered for 39 days before dying, each wife asserted that she was the legitimate spouse. A judge later ruled in Eliette's favor because Marie's marriage was based on the forged signature.

But Aly Dominique apparently sided with the 50-year-old Marie because she grew up with the 23 Dominique siblings. Aly barred Eliette from attending her husband's funeral and threatened her, her lawyer alleged.

▼ **BEATING VICTIM AWARDED:** Kirk Simms, 36, was recently awarded \$902,433 by a jury for being beaten by a police officer in Prince George's County, MD. The school guidance counselor from Hyattsville said he was a victim of mistaken identity when the officers detained and beat him in July of 1990 because he looked like a suspect wanted for assaulting an officer. The jury decision came one day after the U.S. Department of Justice announced a civil rights investigation of Prince George's Police Department to determine whether brutality and racial discrimination are widespread throughout the force.



This Week In Black History

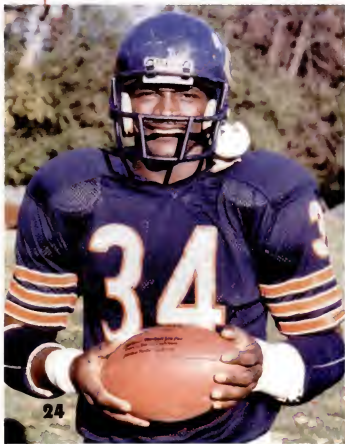
November 20, 1923—

► **Garrett A. Morgan**, inventor and engineer, received a patent for his three-way traffic signal on this day (Patent #1,475,024). This device, which gave off a red, green or amber light to direct traffic to stop, go or proceed with caution, revolutionized traffic control. Today, traffic lights throughout the world work on a red-amber-green pattern. Morgan was born in Paris, KY, on March 4, 1877, and spent his early childhood attending school and working on the family farm. He left Kentucky while still a teen and finally settled in Cleveland, OH, in 1895 where he worked as a sewing machine repairman. He eventually opened his own very successful sewing equipment and repair shop, later branching out to other enterprises and inventions. The most popular were the Safety Hood and Smoke Protector (gas mask) and zigzag attachment for the manual sewing machine. Morgan died in 1963.



November 20, 1977—

▼ **Walter Payton**, Chicago Bears running back, rushed for 275 yards in one game on this day. He shattered the single-game rushing record of 273 yards set by O.J. Simpson in 1976. Payton's record remained unbroken until this year. A native of Columbia, MS, he was born on July 25, 1954.



After a record-setting college career at Jackson State University in Jackson, MS, he was drafted by the Chicago Bears in 1975. He starred for the Bears for the next 13 seasons, missing only a single game to injury before he retired in 1988. His best season was 1977 when he set personal highs for rushing yards (1,852) and he won the league's Most Valuable Player award. Payton led the Bears to victory in Super Bowl XX. He was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1993 and inducted to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1996. Payton died Nov. 1, 1999, of a liver ailment in Barrington, IL.

I play my bedtime.

4:30 a.m.



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Nov. 19 - Dec. 2

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GOTTSCHALKS

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Palmdale;
Riverside;
San Bernardino;
Victorville**

ILLINOIS

VON MAUR

Lombard

IOWA

DILLARD'S

Waterloo

NEW JERSEY

BOSCOV'S

Pleasantville; Vineland

NEW YORK

BOSCOV'S

Albany

OHIO

DILLARD'S

Akron;
Ashtabula;
Beachwood;
Boardman;
Cleveland;
Elyria; Mentor;
Niles; North Canton;
North Randall Park;
Strongsville

PENNSYLVANIA

BOSCOV'S

Easton;
Harrisburgh;
Media;
Reading

Dec. 10 - Dec. 23

MISSISSIPPI

TAYLOR-HARRIS

Gulfport

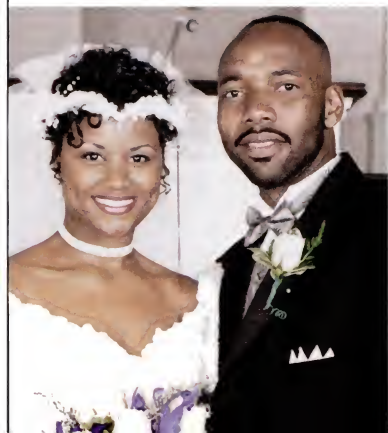


SOCIETY WORLD

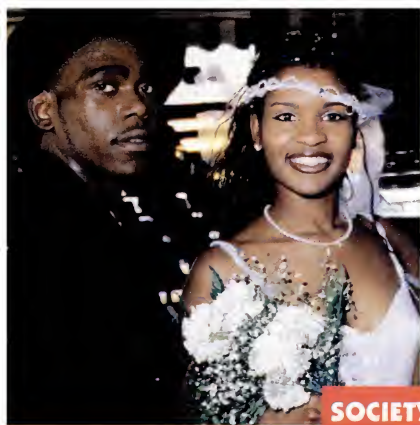


▲ **Candlelight Ceremony:** Lennis P. Francis and Tina D. Womack made their love official at the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Suisun, CA. The bride, a graduate of Cal State Hayward University, is a financial analyst with the United States Air Force. The groom, a graduate of Southern University, is a financial advisor for Edward Jones Investments. They honeymooned in Maui, Hawaii, and will reside in Vacaville, CA.

▲ **Key To My Heart:** Colleen Lynn Adams became the wife of Arthur Fisher Jackson, Jr. during an enchanted ceremony at The Sequoia Restaurant in Washington, D.C. The bride is an employment and labor attorney with the U.S. Equal Opportunity Employment Commission (EEOC) in D.C. The groom is a city planner with the Office of Planning for the District of Columbia. They plan to reside in Silver Spring, MD.



◀ **Perfect Prescription:** Charles E. Smith and the former Nia K. Robinson are all aglow after exchanging marital vows at the Zion Hill Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA. The bride is a pharmacist with CVS Pharmacy. She is a graduate of Xavier University of Louisiana. The bridegroom is an investigator with the Fulton County Solicitor General's Office in Atlanta. The happy newlyweds will live in Atlanta.



SOCIETY WORLD



▲ **Love Under The Big Top:** Jean Thomas Madoundou and Ameera Matheny united as one under the UniverSoul Circus Big Top during the circus' tour stop in Detroit, MI. The bride, who has been with the circus for two years, is from Boston, MA. She performs with the stilt walkers, poodles and elephants. The groom, a native of Gabon, Africa, is a first-year performer with the circus. He is part of the Gabonese Acrobatic Troupe.

▲ **I Married My Friend:** Jeffery Hartman married the former Faira M. Washington at the New Faith MB Church in Chicago. They are both graduates of the International Academy of Merchandising and Design. The bride, a former wardrobe supervisor with EBONY Fashion Fair, is an alteration manager for David's Bridal. The groom is a sales consultant with Rogers Pontiac. Ocho Rios, Jamaica, was the honeymoon spot.



◀ **Fifty And Counting:** Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Pinkney Sr. celebrated 50 years of wedded bliss by renewing their marital vows in front of family and friends at the Satin Doll Banquet Hall, where their four children hosted a party in their honor, in Clinton, MD. Mrs. Maud Pinkney is a retired Maryland educator. Mr. Pinkney, a World War II veteran, retired from the Naval Ordnance Station after 40 years of service.

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2000 / 2001

Fall 2000 Itinerary

(Partial Listing)

Saginaw, MI	Fri., 11/17
Saginaw Civic Center - Heritage Theater	8:00pm
Springfield, OH	Sun., 11/19
Clark State Performing Arts Center	6:00pm
Toledo, OH	Mon., 11/20
Stranahan Theater	7:00pm
Elyria, OH	Tues., 11/21
Lorain Palace Civic Center	8:00pm
Dayton, OH	Fri., 11/24
Dayton Convention Center	8:00pm
Indianapolis, IN	Sat., 11/25
Indiana Convention Center & RCA Dome	8:00pm
Louisville, KY	Sun., 11/26
Memorial Auditorium	7:00pm
	Reception: 9:15pm-11:15pm
Lexington, KY	Tues., 11/28
Swahili Elks Lodge #1611	7:30pm
	Reception: 10:15pm-11:15pm
Evansville, IN	Wed., 11/29
Benjamin Bosse High School Auditorium	8:00pm
Carbondale, IL	Thurs., 11/30
SIUC/Shryock Auditorium	8:00pm
St. Louis, MO	Sat., 12/2
Lecture Hall in the America's Center	4pm & 8pm
Kansas City, KS	Sun., 12/3
Lyric Theatre	6:00pm
Wichita, KS	Tue., 12/5
Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex	8:00pm
Springfield, MO	Thurs., 12/7
Springfield Art Museum	8:00pm
Madison, WI	Fri., 12/8
Alliant Energy Center	8:00pm
	Reception: 10:00pm-11:00pm
Kankakee, IL	Sat., 12/9
Kankakee Junior High School	8:00pm
	Reception: 10:30pm-11:30pm

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Ticket prices include one-year subscription to EBONY or six months to JET.

Brandy And Brother Ray J ^{Make} TV's 'Moesha' A Family Affair

Off-screen sister and brother Brandy and Ray J have taken the rare step of bringing their unique relationship to the UPN hit series "Moesha," making it a true family affair.

And it's a family affair with a mighty strange twist. Ray J joined the cast during its fifth season last year as Dorian, the truly wayward cousin of Moesha (Brandy). He is one of those characters who always manages to attract chaos and trouble like a magnet. And, after having been seen and treated as a cousin, audiences were shocked to learn that Dorian is Moesha's brother—the result of a sexual liaison her father, Frank Mitchell, managed to keep from the family for 16 years.

"I did start out as the cousin on the show, and after four or five episodes, I turned into the brother," Ray J told JET. "Her father (William Allen



▲ Brandy Norwood and her real-life brother, Willie "Ray J" Norwood Jr., have turned the UPN sitcom "Moesha" into a family affair. Brandy stars as Moesha Mitchell and Ray J portrays her half-brother Dorian.

Young) was lying to us all. I'm really his son. He gave me away to his sister in order to keep his relationship with his wife going."

And the way Dorian interacts with Frank, Moesha and the rest of the family is the source of much of the show's energy. "Moesha" has transformed from a show about a very nice, happy-go-lucky family to a program that tackles such social issues as drug use and premarital sex.

Brandy, 21, always aware of her younger brother's (Ray J is 19) tal-

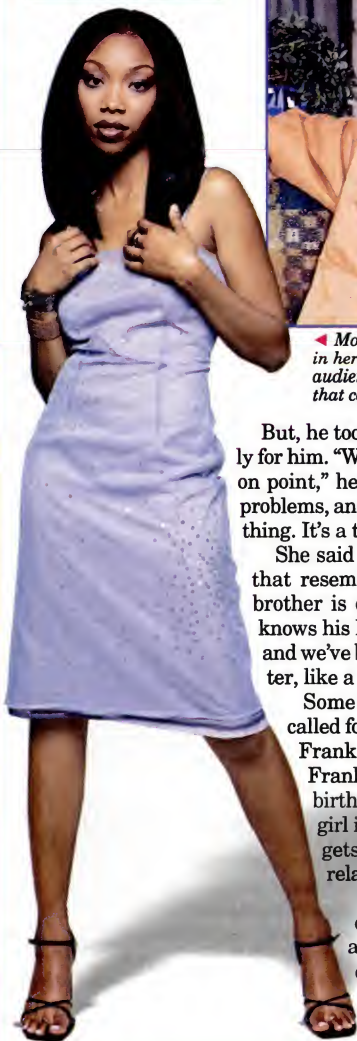


▲ For a sixth season, "Moesha" is a TV favorite. The show's star Brandy (Moesha), is surrounded by her TV family and friends (l-r), Marcus T. Paulk (her brother, Myles Mitchell), Shar Jackson (her friend, Niecy), Ray J, William Allen Young (her father, Frank Mitchell), Lamont Bentley (her friend, Hakeem) and Sheryl Lee Ralph (her stepmother, Dee Mitchell).

ents, had tried for several years to get him to come on the show. "I tried, but he said 'no' because he didn't want people to think he was just getting on because of me. I tried to explain to him that if you're talented, it doesn't matter who introduces you or puts you on. You're going to hold your own anyway. And it took me a couple of years to get that through his head.

Now, he's one of the reasons the show's so successful. He brought a lot of light to the show. He's a blessing. I'm just lucky to have him."

Besides his not wanting to take advantage of his sister, Ray J wasn't ready to take that plunge and join "Moesha" because he was working on an album project and still was a cast member of "The Sinbad Show."



◀ *Moesha is all grown up and takes on new challenges in her personal life this season.* ▲ *The sitcom had audiences glued to their seats when it was revealed that cousin Dorian was actually Moesha's brother.*

But, he took the plunge and it's paid off handsomely for him. "We rehearse together and make sure we're on point," he explained. "She helps me when I have problems, and I help her when she gets stuck on something. It's a team effort with this."

She said Ray J is one who rarely needs anything that resembles help with lines. She said her kid brother is one of the first people in the cast who knows his lines. "And this is just his second season, and we've been here six years. I'm like the proud sister, like a second mom to him."

Some of the story lines for this season have called for Dorian to continue having run-ins with Frank like stealing a car from the dealership Frank manages, engaging in a search for his birth mother and Dorian getting caught with a girl in his dad's bedroom. In addition, Moesha gets engaged and then has to re-think her relationship with boyfriend Q (Fredro Starr).

What elevates "Moesha" above mere sitcom material is the lessons about accountability and responsibility learned by all characters.

The cast also includes Marcus T.

Paulk as Myles Mitchell, Lamont Bentley as Hakeem Campbell and Shar Jackson as Niecy.

Brandy quickly points out that she and Ray J are years past the point of having sibling rivalry and are now each other's biggest champion. "Ray J and I get along so well. When we were younger, we always talked about working and acting together. We talked about it and it came to light. It was just wonderful. I'm just so proud of him and his talents. When we look at each other, we see the same things. I look at him and I see me and when he looks at me he sees himself. That's a beautiful thing."

Both Norwood children began their professional careers in the world of music and veered into acting. Besides "Moesha," Brandy was in the hit film *I Know What You Did Last Summer* and the two major television movies



▲ In a desperate measure to save Dorian, he is sent to boot camp where he undergoes the rigors of training by a tough drill sergeant.

Cinderella with Whitney Houston and *Double Platinum* with Diana Ross.

Ray J's rise sort of parallels his older sister's. He has been a recording artist as well as music producer and

▼ Dorian keeps Moesha's dad and her stepmom on their toes with his boundless energy. Frank recently exposed that Dorian is the child he fathered during an extra-marital affair.





◀ Emmy Award-winning actor Robert Guillaume of "Sports Night" fame recently made a guest appearance on the sitcom.

the films *Mars Attacks* and *Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored*.

Besides performing together on "Moesha," Brandy and Ray J pooled their talents for the Brandy holiday doll that recently went on the market. The doll sings, and Ray J did the music for her. "We're teaming up in every aspect of our careers," she pointed out.

In addition to all of his professional endeavors, Ray J also hosts "The Source Sound Lab," a hip-hop dance show that airs on the UPN on Saturdays.

Loyal viewers who've made "Moesha" a consistent favorite can expect to see compelling on-screen chemistry on a show that continues to provide comedic, but meaningful, messages.

songwriter in addition to acting. He contributed singles to the movie soundtracks of *Dr. Dolittle* and *Set It Off*. He performed with Shaquille O'Neal in *Steel* and was featured in

▼ *Moesha* and Dee congratulate Myles after he was honored during a ceremony as Frank and Dorian, who don't always see eye-to-eye, stare at each other after a disagreement.



Dr. Ruth Simmons Named 1st Black Prexy Of Brown University

Dr. Ruth J. Simmons has been appointed the 18th president of Brown University in Providence, RI. Simmons will assume the post on July 1, 2001, becoming the first Black to head an Ivy League school.

Currently president of Smith College in Northampton, MA, Simmons will succeed Gordon Gee who resigned earlier this year. The institution had been seeking a leader since February.

Brown has 7,000 students and an endowment of \$1.5 billion—one of the smallest endowments of the Ivy League schools. Simmons said that might be too small to accomplish what she wants there.

"I know that sounds like a billionaire complaining he's not as rich as Bill Gates," she said. "It's not a dire situation, by any stretch."

In 1995, Simmons, 54, became the first Black president of Smith College, an elite women's college with 2,500 students.

During her five-year tenure at Smith, she gained national attention by establishing the first engineering program at a women's college, instituting a curriculum-wide focus on public speaking and providing a paid internship for every undergraduate. She was also responsible for nearly doubling the school's \$450 million endowment to \$900 million.

Simmons, a native of Houston,



▲ Dr. Ruth J. Simmons, currently president of Smith College in Northampton, MA, is slated to assume the presidency of prestigious Brown University in Providence, RI, on July 1 of next year.

TX, is the youngest of 12 children. Her father worked as a sharecropper and mother did domestic work.

She earned a scholarship to Dillard University in New Orleans, where she graduated summa cum laude in 1967. Simmons earned a Ph.D. in romance languages from Harvard University and taught French at the University of New Orleans.

She later worked seven years at Princeton University as the acting director of the Afro-American studies program and associate dean of the faculty. In the early '90s she served as the provost of Spelman College in Atlanta.



◀ **NOTRE DAME'S NEW GLEE CLUB PREXY:** Austin Stephen Smith, 21, was recently elected president of Notre Dame's all-male Glee Club in Notre Dame, IN. Smith, of Country Club Hills, IL, is the first Black president in the club's 85-year history to serve in this position. The marketing major, who is in his senior year, is one of five Blacks in the 75-member male chorus. Smith and four other Glee Club members were selected earlier this year to perform at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., to honor the university's president emeritus, the Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, who was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.

Federal Report Reveals That American Mothers, Especially Black Women, Are Not Breast-Feeding Enough

HEALTH

For decades American mothers have been encouraged to breast-feed their babies because breast milk is considered the perfect food for an infant.

Sadly the advice has been falling on deaf ears because a new government report shows that not enough women are doing it, especially Black women, who have been found to breast-feed at an "alarmingly low" rate, according to U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher.

Some 64 percent of American women breast-feed during their infants' first weeks to month of life.

That's better than the 50 percent of a decade ago, but the nation missed the government's goal of having 75 percent of mothers breast-feeding newborns by this year.

But only 29 percent of all U.S. moms, and 19 percent of Black mothers, breast-feed until their babies are 6 months old—a crucial time period.

The government's new goal cites that by the year 2010 at least half of America's new mothers should exclusively breast-feed their newborns until age 6 months, when solid foods are added, and for at least

25 percent to continue breast-feeding until the baby's first birthday.

The report calls for a cultural shift in how the nation regards breast-feeding with policies to ensure that parents are told routinely why it's so healthy, that hospitals improve teaching of mothers in how to do it, and that workplaces make breast-feeding easier for employees.

It was noted that the burden doesn't just fall on mothers. Support from the baby's father and grandmothers, and clear-cut doctor's advice play huge roles in her decision. Yet Black women in particular too often get little encouragement, especially because their own mothers likely used infant formula.

Breast-feeding is better than formula because studies show breast-fed babies suffer fewer illnesses such as diarrhea, earache, pneumonia and other infections. Also studies suggest breast-fed babies may be less likely to develop asthma, diabetes or childhood cancer. Their brains seem to develop faster, their immune systems respond better to vaccines and they are less likely to become fatter later in childhood.

Mothers also benefit from breast-feeding. In addition to its being cheap, they tend to shed pregnancy pounds faster, and long-term breast-feeding may lower some women's risk of getting breast cancer.

Women's Response To Stress Makes Them Better Bosses: Study

When it comes to the best managerial skills, women may have an advantage over men, a new study finds.

Researchers at the University of California found that women are more apt to discuss their problems and solicit help from friends and family in times of duress instead of suffering in silence or becoming aggressive, the New York Post reported.

Talking out problems allows women to develop stronger communication skills, which in turn makes them better managers of people than men, say researchers, who analyzed 200 studies of stress behavior.

The study suggests that differences in women's hormonal makeup cause them to "tend and befriend" during times of stress instead of responding with the "fight or flight" response more typical to men, the Post reported.

One powerful, mood-enhancing hormone, oxytocin, is believed to calm women during stressful times, while estrogen, a female sex hormone, enhances oxytocin's effect.

"If you look at the types of jobs created over the last few years, there has been more focus on communication and empathy skills, which are traditionally female strengths," behavior expert Nick Isles told the New York Post. According to Isles, old-style, more aggressive management techniques are no longer popular.

PEOPLE



Ray Marciano,

regional editor at the Dayton (OH) Daily News, was installed as president of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), the nation's largest journalism organization with nearly 300 chapters and 10,000 members. Marciano is only the second person of color to lead the 91-year-old organization. As SPJ president, Marciano plans to work for greater diversity in journalism.

Karen V. Clopton,

the first Black female president of the San Francisco Civil Service Commission, was named chief of operations for the Port of San Francisco. As the first Black woman in the position, she will direct daily business operations and supervise the Operations Division, which includes human resources, communications, legislative affairs, business services, workers compensation and health and safety.



Arthur Barnes,

investment-treasury officer of the city of Mobile, AL, was chosen as president-elect of the Municipal Treasurers' Association of the United States and Canada. He is the first Black to hold the position in the Washington, D.C.-based organization, which represents 2,000 treasurers across North America.

William Blaine Butler,

a Meharry Medical College alumnus who has held faculty appointments at the college in Nashville, TN, was chosen to serve as the new dean of the Meharry School of Dentistry. As dean, Butler, who has a part-time private practice in prosthodontics, will focus on involving students and faculty more in the clinical care of underserved populations, such as residents of homeless shelters.



Monica Alexander,

a senior publicist at Rogers & Cowan, was appointed senior director of R&B Publicity, MCA Records. In her new post, Alexander, who is based at MCA's Santa Monica, CA, headquarters, will design and implement national media campaigns for the record label's R&B, urban and hip-hop roster.



the week's best photos

■ **STYLISH TRIO:** Hit vocal group Destiny's Child (l-r), Kelly Rowland, Beyoncé Knowles and Michelle Williams, smile for the cameras as the beautiful songstresses were dressed to impress for the VH1 Vogue Fashion Awards in New York City at the Theater at Madison Square Garden.

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beauty of the week

MELANIE BAXTER
is from Silver
Spring, MD. She
enjoys modeling,
acting, shopping
and reading.

*Photo by
Phil Collins*





Bill Jones

■ **TRACK TIPS:** Olympic gold track star Maurice Greene, who has been called “the fastest man on earth,” makes a guest appearance on the TV sitcom “Moesha” (see page 32) and gives some track pointers to the show’s co-star William Allen Young.



Bill Jones

■ **THE MCKNIGHTS ON A NIGHT OUT:** Brian McKnight and his wife Julie are all smiles as they escort their two sons, Cole Nikolas (l) and Brian Jr., to the recent premiere of *The Grinch* starring Jim Carrey at the Universal Amphitheatre in Universal City, CA.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Holiday Extra

A delicious addition to any holiday dinner is Sherry Orange Slices. There is nothing more refreshing than oranges with their zesty flavor. Your guest will really enjoy this refreshing recipe.



Sherry Orange Slices

8 seedless oranges, chilled
2 tablespoons sugar or brown sugar

2 to 4 tablespoons sherry
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sweetened shredded coconut

.....

Pare oranges, cutting deep enough to remove all white membrane. Cut into thin slices. Arrange each sliced orange on your favorite salad greens. Sprinkle with sugar. Drizzle slices with sherry. Chill for about 1 hour in refrigerator. Arrange coconut over orange slices. Garnish with cherries if desired.



Yields 8 servings



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Patrick Ewing Offers Kidney To Ailing Friend Alonzo Mourning



Patrick Ewing



Alonzo Mourning

Patrick Ewing has offered to donate one of his kidneys to Alonzo Mourning if the ailing Miami Heat center ever needs a transplant.

"You know I will always be there for him," Ewing said. "If my kidney matches, I'll be happy to donate one. If it comes down to that. He knows that."

Mourning has a common but serious kidney disease that is forcing him to miss this season. It is not yet known whether he will need a kidney transplant.

Ewing and Mourning both played at Georgetown and remain close friends despite their fierce NBA battles. They work out together during the off-season, and Ewing is the godfather to Mourning's newborn daughter, Myka Sydney.

Ewing said he and Mourning have not approached doctors, nor have they gone through any tests to determine if the former New York Knicks and current Seattle center would be a match for Mourning.

Mourning's kidney disease, focal glomerulosclerosis, initially will be

treated with medication but could eventually require dialysis or a transplant. The disease was discovered during a routine physical after Mourning returned from leading the U.S. Olympic team to a gold medal in Australia.

"I haven't even talked to the doctors yet, but I'm just saying if it comes down to that, if we match up, I'll be happy to give him one," Ewing said.

Tiger Woods Complains About PGA Tour And Its Fairness To Players



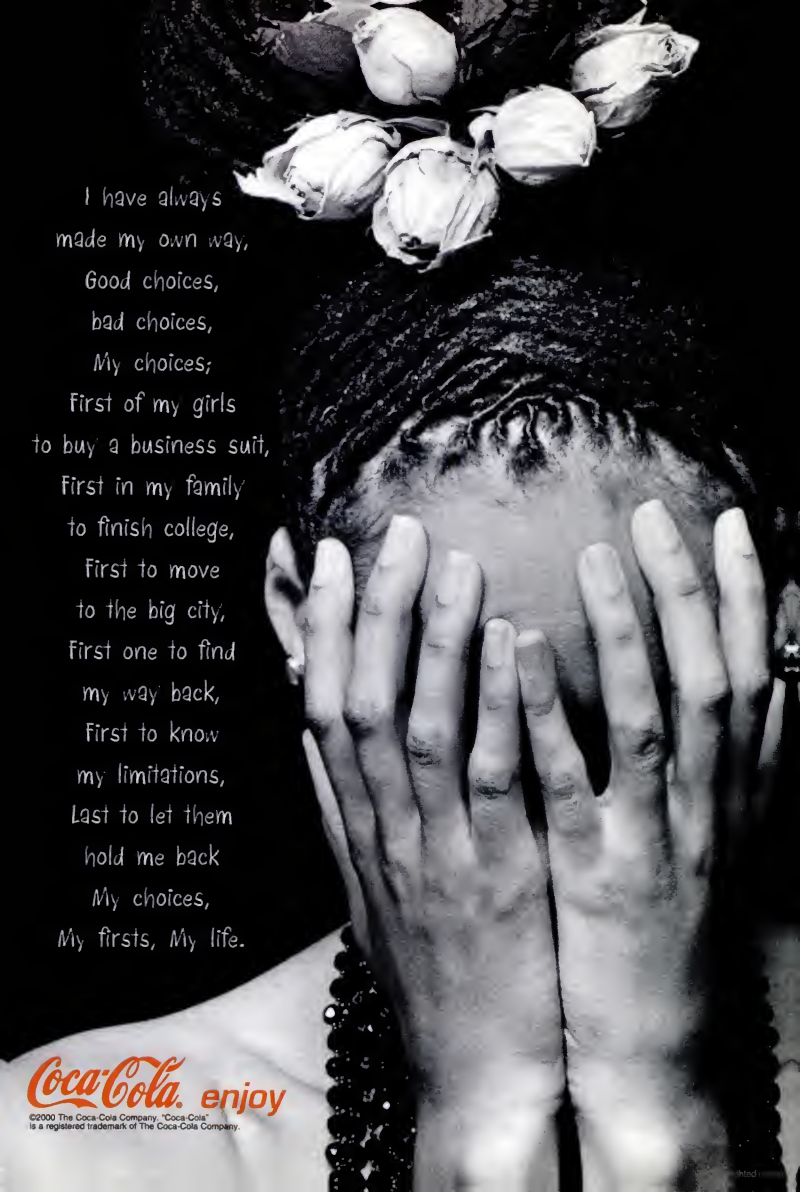
Tiger Woods

Tiger Woods, who is currently ranked the No. 1 golf player in the world, recently told *Golf World* magazine that he resents the PGA Tour's use of his image to promote

events in which he does not play.

When these comments became public, Tiger stood by his criticism, saying his complaint is about getting control of his own marketing rights, not about more TV money.

"It's not about getting a cut of the TV revenue," said Woods, who has won three of the four major championships this season. "It's about what's right by the players. The players and the PGA Tour have been bucking heads on a lot of issues. The public has no idea, but we do it all the time."

A black and white photograph of a woman's face, partially obscured by her hands. She has her fingers spread across her forehead and eyes. Her hair is styled in a bun adorned with several roses. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

I have always
made my own way,
Good choices,
bad choices,
My choices;
First of my girls
to buy a business suit,
First in my family
to finish college,
First to move
to the big city,
First one to find
my way back,
First to know
my limitations,
Last to let them
hold me back
My choices,
My firsts, My life.

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Tiger's father, Earl Woods, cautioned the PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem not to take his son lightly.

"This is like two tigers that are head-to-head with only one trail and both going in opposite directions," the elder Woods said. "One of them has to step aside in order for the other one to pass. And Tiger

has all the cards."

Earl Woods also said his son does not need the PGA Tour. "I'm not saying this in a threatening mode, but Tiger is an independent entrepreneur. He can give up his PGA Tour status and play where he wants. He can take his game to Europe, Africa, Asia or wherever he wants and the world will follow."

Jerry Manuel And Dusty Baker Voted Baseball's Managers Of The Year



Jerry Manuel



Dusty Baker

Baseball's American League and National League recently named their Manager of the Year and each league awarded the title to a Black.

Jerry Manuel, manager of the Chicago White Sox, was named the American League Manager of the Year and the San Francisco Giants' Dusty Baker was named the National League Manager of the Year. Both managers won by a landslide in the voting that was done by the Baseball

Writers Association of America.

In his third season, Manuel led the young White Sox to a league-leading 95 wins and a post-season appearance this year—something the team hasn't done since 1993.

Manuel earlier was also voted the Associated Press Manager of the Year (JET, Nov. 20).

Baker, who Manuel cites as "instrumental in my growth as a manager," has won the NL Manager of the Year a record three times now. After guiding the Giants to the best record in the majors and a playoff berth this season, he signed a lucrative multiyear contract.

After both Manuel and Baker were voted Manager of the Year by The Sporting News last month, Baker said, "It makes me proud. There are only five Black managers and two got voted, one in each league...that's definitely a sign that we're qualified and very good at our jobs."



Strawberry Gets Short Jail Time; Return To Treatment After Making Death Wish

A week after telling Hillsborough County Circuit Judge Florence Foster that he'd stopped taking chemotherapy and wanted to die, former New York Yankee slugger, Darryl Strawberry, who is battling drug abuse and colon cancer, was sentenced to 30 days with credit for 15 days already served and ordered to resume his chemotherapy and drug treatment.

In his earlier appearance before her, Strawberry admitted to Judge Foster his latest probation violation of leaving a residential drug treatment center in Tampa with a friend to use crack cocaine.

"Life hasn't been worth living for me. That's the honest truth. I figured drugs might kill me."

◀ *At recent hearing before Hillsborough County (FL) Circuit Judge Florence Foster, Darryl Strawberry confessed: "I can't run from myself anymore. I've got to take responsibility for myself in recovery."*

The eight-time All-Star said he quit his chemotherapy, which makes him sick for days after a treatment, because it was too much to handle while in jail. "The last couple of weeks of my life have been downhill. At the time I would rather just go ahead and kill myself, [but] I couldn't because of my five children. That wouldn't be fair to them."

Prosecutors noted it was the third time Strawberry, 39, has violated his probation of two years' house arrest for 1999 charges of drug possession and soliciting a prostitute. They wanted him to serve a long sentence.

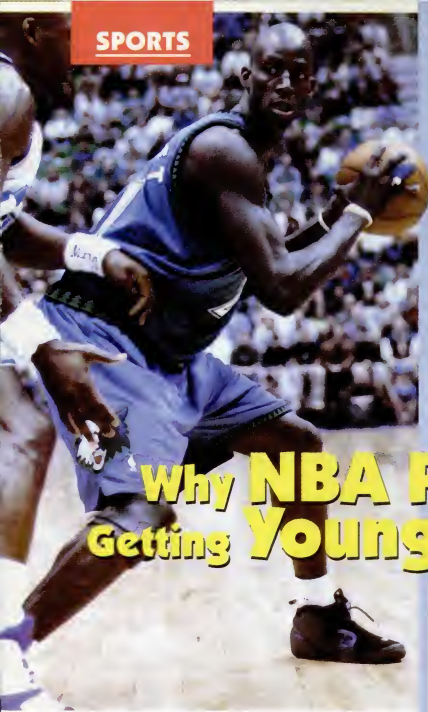
After Strawberry's disturbing testimony, Judge Foster delayed her decision in his case to consult with his oncologist and psychiatrist. At the recent hearing she ordered Strawberry returned to Hillsborough County Jail where he was being held for violating house arrest.

"You have got to get the therapy or you are history," Judge Foster said.

Foster told Strawberry that he would get no more chances to end his repeated drug use and his next violation would land him in prison.

"If you can't make it on the outside, I'll find a place where you can get treatment on the inside," she warned.

Strawberry acknowledged his mistakes before the judge saying, "I can't run from myself anymore. I've got to take responsibility for myself in recovery."



Why NBA Players Are Getting Younger Every Season

NBA players have been getting younger every season. Fans are more likely to see their favorite player sporting a school letterman jacket, not a tailor-made suit, after a game.

Only 10 years ago it was unheard of for a player straight out of high school to skip college to enter the NBA. Now when a youngster declares

he's ready for the NBA, people listen. So why are NBA players getting younger every season?

Because these players are getting better at a younger age and are confident that they can compete in the league. In addition, many of the young players feel they just can't pass up the million-dollar contracts that teams are offering for their talent.

► Kobe Bryant entered the NBA draft straight from high school in 1996. Last season he helped lead the L.A. Lakers to a national championship title.





▲ Darius Miles entered the 2000 NBA draft straight from high school. He became the highest chosen prep star in history when the L.A. Clippers picked him as its No. 3 draft choice.

Kevin Garnett apparently opened the floodgates for teen players when he skipped college and signed a three-year, \$5.3 million contract with the Timberwolves after he was selected fifth in the 1995 NBA draft.



▲ Los Angeles Clippers coach Alvin Gentry works individually with his young players to develop their talent.

At age 19, Garnett was the youngest rookie in the league. He was the first American to enter the draft from high school in 20 years. Since his NBA debut, 11 players have followed.

"Before [Garnett entered the NBA from high school] no one really thought of that as an option," said David Aldridge, NBA reporter for ESPN. "Now they have a point of reference that they may not have had before."

Garnett's success in the NBA opened many people's eyes. Last season he made the first All-NBA Team and All-Defensive Team. He led the T-wolves in points, field goals and free throws made, rebounds and blocked shots.

The very next year in 1996, top prepsters Jermaine O'Neal (Indiana) and Kobe Bryant (Los Angeles Lakers) entered the draft.



▲ *David Aldridge, NBA reporter for ESPN, says the NBA is getting younger because players want to "cash in" earlier.*

This past season, star guard Kobe Bryant, now 22 years old, helped lead the Lakers to its first national championship in 12 years.

There's a younger look to the NBA because more of the older players are retiring, says Orlando Magic Grant Hill, who's been watching the transformation for the last six years.

"A lot of the players who've been the focal point of the NBA over the last 10, 15 years, like Michael Jordan and the guys from that era, have started retiring. There's an influx of young players entering the league. Instead of 22-year-

► *Grant Hill, Orlando Magic forward, said the learning experience he encountered during his years at Duke University helped him on and off the court.*

old college graduates replacing these gentlemen with 15-year careers, you're replacing them with 18 and 19 year olds," Hill said.

Hill, who last season played for Detroit, entered the NBA in 1994 after four years at Duke University.

"I know when I came out of high school, skipping college wasn't even thought of, probably because there was no reference point. You couldn't



really compare your game or your career in high school to someone else's who left because no one did it. So, we all just went to college and maybe you may have left college your junior year. But now, players are lucky to have one or two years college experience when they get to the NBA."

The Los Angeles Clippers used its third pick in this year's draft to scoop up 19-year-old Darius Miles. He is the highest chosen prep star ever. His outstanding play caught the eyes of many NBA scouts. The Clippers' roster lists five players age 21 or younger.

Clippers' coach Alvin Gentry said he doesn't "expect Miles to step in and be Grant Hill right now. Even a guy like Kobe Bryant, who's a great player in this league now, struggled his first year."

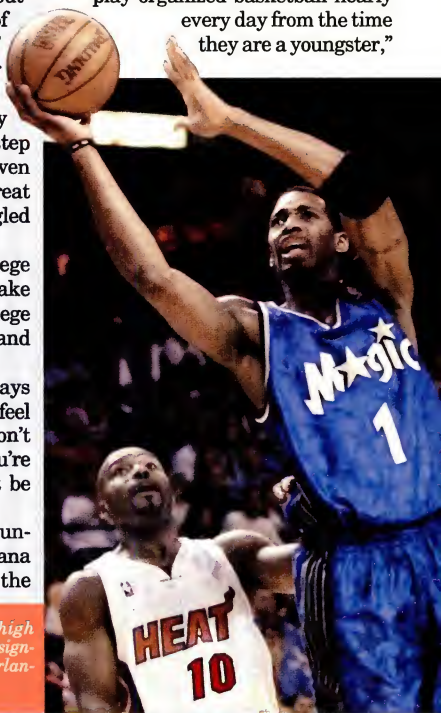
Miles adds, "I'm not like college players. They expect me to take awhile to adjust to the league. College players are expected to come in and just do well."

The Clippers' guard also says though he tries his best, he doesn't feel added pressure to excel. "You don't have to prove to anybody that you're good," Miles said. "You wouldn't be here if you weren't good."

Another team that has an abundance of young talent is the Indiana Pacers. This team assembled the

largest conglomerate of straight-from-high school players in NBA history. The trio includes Jonathan Bender, 19, Al Harrington, 20, and Jermaine O'Neal, 22.

The reason the team has such young players is because new coach Isiah Thomas thinks it's easier for certain guys to make the jump from high school to the NBA. "Their skills today are somewhat better because they play organized basketball nearly every day from the time they are a youngster,"



► This summer, Tracy McGrady, a high school prodigy in his fourth NBA season, signed a \$93 million contract with the Orlando Magic.

Thomas said.

Thomas said he's lucky to have a team that has young talent mixed with experienced players. "I'm fortunate to have veteran guys like Reggie Miller, Jalen Rose and Sam Perkins, who play hard every practice and every game and thus set a pretty good example for our younger players. That makes it a little easier for me."

Pacers' forward O'Neal, in his fifth NBA season, said the money was a powerful incentive for a teen to turn pro, but noted when he entered the NBA he believed he had the skills to compete with the veteran NBA players.

"I wanted to prove people wrong who didn't think I could play at this level. I also wanted to take care of my mother and family. It was a chance to play against the best players in the world. Mentally and physically I don't think I was ready [to go to the NBA], but I was ready to take on the challenge."

Only two years removed from their championship dynasty, the Chicago Bulls is the youngest average-aged team in the NBA at 22.9 years.

At the age of 21, the Bulls' center Elton Brand is the leader of the team. Last season he was honored as co-rookie of the year with Houston's Steve Francis.

Brand echoed that the money is what attracts many young athletes to the NBA first because of varying financial situations. However, he explained his leaving Duke University early (after his All-American sophomore year) was because playing in the

NBA—showcasing his athletic ability at his young age—has always been a dream.

"Everyone wants to play in the NBA because it's the highest level of competition," Brand said.

Still, Grant Hill noted, "There's def-

▼ *Chicago Bulls' Elton Brand, who left college after his sophomore year, was named Schick NBA co-Rookie of the Year last season.*



initely more attention in the last five years than 15 years ago on the amount of money that professional athletes make overall. When I was growing up, I didn't know what Julius Erving made or what Magic Johnson made. Now these guys know at a younger age."

That is true of Grant Hill's teammate, Tracy McGrady, who is another prime example of the successful players that didn't go to college. He is only 21 years old and is already playing in his fourth pro season. He just signed a \$93 million contract over seven years.

"Guys just want to get to their big contracts earlier," said ESPN's Aldridge. "You have to play a certain number of years before you're eligible to get big money contracts. I think a

lot of guys are saying, 'If I leave school early or don't go to college at all, then in three or four years, I can cash in.'"

Taking note of the ever growing crop of young talent, NBA Commissioner David Stern is in the early stages of forming an NBA developmental league overseas aimed at grooming young NBA superstars of the future.

The league obviously believes its young Black players have got what it takes to compete at the highest level of the sport and doesn't mind paying for it. And fans are enjoying these talented young athletes' high energy and flair that keeps them coming back for more.

—MELODY HOFFMAN

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Lennox Lewis Wins Heavyweight Championship Bout And Retains Both Belts

Heavyweight boxing champ Lennox Lewis left the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas donning his World Boxing Council (WBC) and International Boxing Federation (IBF) championship belts.

David Tua was unable to dethrone Lewis in the recent 12-round fight.

The 6-foot-4 Lewis towered over the 5-foot-10 Tua in the ring. Lewis used his 15-inch reach advantage to land solid uppercuts in front of a sell-out crowd.

Lewis withstood a few powerful hooks from the Samoan early in the fight, but by the end of the match, Lewis struck a powerful left jab that had the left side of Tua's face red and swollen.

Tua, who was paid \$3.5 million, was out-boxed and Lewis won by lopsided judges' scores, as much as a 10-point margin. Lewis earned \$8.5 million for the bout.

Both contenders entered the fight with one loss and now look to Mike

► *Lewis used his 6-inch height advantage to land a powerful right jab into Tua's face.*



▲ *Lennox Lewis left the ring with his championship belts after his win over David Tua during their heavyweight championship bout in Las Vegas.*

Tyson as their next challenger.



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Bernard Shaw Steps Down As CNN Anchorman

Bernard Shaw, chief anchorman for most major stories during CNN's 20-year history, recently announced that he will leave the network early next year to write books and spend more time with his family.

Shaw, 60, will leave when his contract expires Feb. 28, 2001. He said he may be enticed into occasional on-air work, and network founder Ted Turner said Shaw "will always have a home at CNN."

"Harder than entering this business is leaving it and leaving CNN," Shaw said. "But you know, some roses are so fragrant. And as a gardener, I want to grow and smell them more, when I'm not writing."

The veteran anchorman has been with CNN since the beginning, leaving a job as the correspondent covering Capitol Hill for ABC News.

▼ "Inside Politics" anchor Shaw is shown wiping a tear after co-anchor Judy Woodruff paid tribute to him in this image from television.



▲ CNN Anchorman Bernard Shaw talks to his viewers on set at the network's Atlanta headquarters. Shaw, a 20-year veteran of CNN, said he would leave the network early next year.

His first project when he leaves will be an autobiography. He said he also wants to write fiction, a book of essays and a journalism primer.

Shaw resisted calling his announcement a retirement. "I'm not retiring," he said. "I'm stepping back."



Continued from page 18

years ago when Affirmative Action was attacked. It's frightening. People realize that it's possible to go backwards as it is desirable to go forward," he told JET.

And in a history-making election in Chicago, Dorothy Brown was elected as clerk for the Cook County Circuit Court in Chicago. She is the first Black woman elected to the office.

"I am just very excited about the fact that the city and the county believed in me," Brown said.

In other closely watched elections, Blacks joined Hispanics and women in overwhelming numbers to elect Hillary Rodham Clinton as New York senator. Mrs. Clinton, the first first lady to win a U.S. Senate seat, told her supporters that "because of you, here we are."

Black Members Of The U.S. House Of Representatives

ALABAMA

Earl Hilliard (D)

CALIFORNIA

Barbara Lee (D)

Julian Dixon (D)

Maxine Waters (D)

Juanita Millender-McDonald (D)

FLORIDA

Corrine Brown (D)

Carrie Meek (D)

Alice Hastings (D)

GEORGIA

Sanford Bishop (D)

John Lewis (D)

Cynthia McKinney (D)

ILLINOIS

Bobby Rush (D)

Jesse Jackson Jr. (D)

Danny Davis (D)

INDIANA

Julla Carson (D)

LOUISIANA

William Jefferson (D)

MARYLAND

Albert Wynn (D)

Elijah Cummings (D)

MICHIGAN

John Conyers (D)

Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (D)

MISSISSIPPI

Bennie Thompson (D)

MISSOURI

William Clay (D)

NEW JERSEY

Donald Payne (D)

NEW YORK

Gregory Meeks (D)

Edolphus Towns (D)

Major Owens (D)

Charles Rangel (D)

NORTH CAROLINA

Eva Clayton (D)

Melvin Watt (D)

OHIO

Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D)

OKLAHOMA

J.C. Watts (R)

PENNSYLVANIA

Chaka Fattah (D)

SOUTH CAROLINA

James Clyburn (D)

TENNESSEE

Harold Ford (D)

TEXAS

Sheila Jackson Lee (D)

Eddie Bernice Johnson (D)

VIRGINIA

Robert C. Scott (D)

WASHINGTON D.C.

Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D)

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Del. Donna Christian-Christensen (D-U.S., V.I.)

movies to see



THE FAMILY MAN Rated PG-13 Universal Pictures



▲ Don Cheadle stars as Cash in Universal Pictures' *The Family Man*.

Jack Campbell is a New York investment banker who has forsaken love for his career and is on the verge of masterminding a massive corporate takeover. Jack leaves the office late on Christmas Eve. Stopping in at a drugstore, he encounters a mysterious character named Cash, who begins to

question him. Jack tells the stranger that he has everything he has ever wanted. And with that, the enigmatic Cash leaves Jack on the desolate, snow-swept sidewalk, a solitary figure with a cashmere overcoat and leather briefcase. That night Jack goes to sleep and wakes up in a rumpled, lived-in bed in a room piled with toys, discarded clothes, finger paintings and furniture. His six-year-old daughter is waking him up and a wife named Kate is lying next to him. Cash is the unlikely "angel of regret" who transports Jack into this new life; he becomes the catalyst for Jack to re-examine his life. Starring in this romantic fantasy drama are **Nicolas Cage**, **Tea Leoni**, **Don Cheadle**, **Jeremy Priven**, **Amber Valletta** and **Harve Presnell**.

—SYLVIA P. FLANAGAN

► Nicolas Cage stars as Jack Campbell and Don Cheadle stars as Cash in Universal Pictures' romantic fantasy drama *The Family Man*.



JET top20 ALBUMS

■ JAY-Z



■ JA RULE

1. THE DYNASTY

Jay-Z (Roc-A-Fella)

2. RULE 3:36

Ja Rule (Murder Inc.)

3. LET'S GET READY

Mystikal (Jive)

4. SHYNE

Shyne (Bad Boy)

5. BACK FOR THE FIRST TIME

Ludacris (Disturbing Tha Peace)

6. COUNTRY GRAMMAR

Nelly (Fo' Reel)

7. THE LAST OF A DYING BREED

Scarface (Rap-A-Lot)

8. WHO IS JILL SCOTT? WORDS AND SOUNDS VOL. 1

Jill Scott (Hidden Beach)

9. G.O.A.T. FEATURING JAMES T. SMITH: THE GREATEST OF ALL TIME

LL Cool J (Def Jam)

10. NOTHIN' BUT DRAMA

Profyle (Motown)

11. LOYALTY AND BETRAYAL

E-40 (Sick Wid' It)

12. BEWARE OF DOG

Lil' Bow Wow (So So Def)

13. MY THOUGHTS

Avant (Magic Johnson)

14. MOUNTAIN HIGH...VALLEY LOW

Yolanda Adams (Elektra)

15. STANKONIA

Outkast (LaFace)

16. TRAPPED IN CRIME

C Murder (No Limit)

17. A NU DAY

Tamia (Elektra)

18. JAZZMATAZZ STREETSOUL

Guru (Virgin)

19. VISIT ME

Changing Faces (Atlantic)

20. THE HEAT

Toni Braxton (LaFace)

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JET

top20 SINGLES



■ ERYKAH BADU

1. BAG LADY
Erykah Badu (Motown)

2. LIAR
Profyle (Motown)

3. SHAKE IT FAST
Mystikal (Jive)

4. INCOMPLETE
Sisqo (Def Soul)

5. 911
Wyclef Jean Featuring Mary J. Blige (Columbia)

6. WHAT'S YOUR FANTASY
Ludacris Featuring Shawna (Disturbing Tha Peace)

7. BOUNCE WITH ME
Lil Bow Wow Featuring Xscape (So So Def)

8. E.I.
Nelly (Fo' Reel)

9. OPEN MY HEART
Yolanda Adams (Elektra)

10. NO MORE
Ruff Endz (Epic)

11. I WISH
R. Kelly (Jive)

12. BETWEEN ME AND YOU
Ja Rule Featuring Christina Milian (Murder Inc.)

13. INDEPENDENT WOMEN PART 1
Destiny's Child (Columbia)

14. LET'S GET MARRIED
Jagged Edge (So So Def)

15. JUST BE A MAN ABOUT IT
Toni Braxton (LaFace)

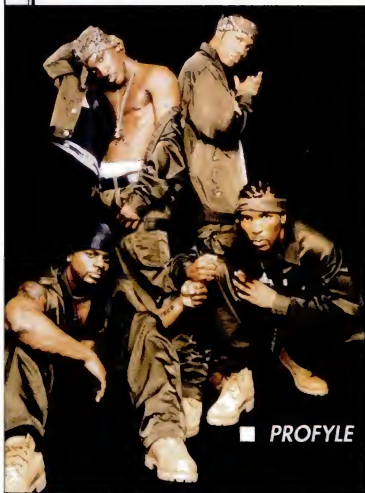
16. MY FIRST LOVE
Avant (Magic Johnson)

17. THAT OTHER WOMAN
Changing Faces (Atlantic)

18. HEY PAPI
Jay-Z Featuring Memphis Bleek & Amil (Def Jam)

19. YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME
Kelly Price (Def Soul)

20. THE LIGHT
Common (MCA)



■ PROFYLE



television

'Jingle All The Way'



Sinbad (Myron Larabee) and **Arnold Schwarzenegger** (Howard Langston) star in this movie about a workaholic father who frantically searches for the "hot" Christmas toy to redeem himself with his son in this hilarious holiday adventure *Jingle All The Way*, also starring are **Phil Hartman**, **Rita Wilson**, **Robert Conrad**, **Jim Belushi** and **Jake Lloyd** on (Saturday, November 25 at 8 p.m., ET) on ABC. Others scheduled to appear this week include:

Eriq LaSalle/Michael Michele on "ER," (Thursday, November 23 at 10 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Mykelti Williamson on "The Fugitive," (Friday, November 24 at 8 p.m., ET) on CBS.

Samuel L. Jackson in *Jurassic Park*, (Saturday, November 25 at 8 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Della Reese in *The Moving Of Sophia Myles*, (Sunday, November 26 at 9 p.m., ET) on CBS.

Hattie Winston on "Becker," (Monday, November 27 at 9:30 p.m., ET) on CBS.

Kim Coles/Esther Scott on "The Geena Davis Show," (Tuesday, November 28 at 9:30 p.m., ET) on ABC.

Al Roker/Natalie Cole/Destiny's Child on "Christmas In Rockefeller Center," (Wednesday, November 29 at 8 p.m., ET) on NBC.

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- Kathy (Raven's mother)
Wal-Mart Customer

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